

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

2122  
#35P  
PATENT

1-30-04

in re application of: Michael J. Branson et al. : Date: January 23, 2004  
Group Art Unit: 2122 : IBM Corporation  
Examiner: Unassigned : Intellectual Property Law  
Serial No.: 10/051,405 : Dept. 917, Bldg. 006-1  
Filed: January 18, 2002 : 3605 Highway 52 North  
Title: APPARATUS AND METHOD FOR  
SYNCHRONIZING SOFTWARE  
BETWEEN COMPUTERS : Rochester, MN 55901

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

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JAN 29 2004

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Technology Center 2100

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January 23, 2004

(Date of Deposit)

Debra A. Peterson

Debra A. Peterson

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Applicants request that the information listed on the attached Form PTO/SE/08A considered by the Office during the pendency of the above entitled application, pursuant to 37 C.F.R. 1.97. In accordance with 37 C.F.R. 1.97(h), the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement shall not constitute an admission that any information cited therein is, or is considered to be, material to patentability as defined in 37 C.F.R. 1.56(b). In the interest of full and complete disclosure to the Office, some or all of the art cited herein may not be considered by Applicant(s) or the Undersigned to be material under the new standard of materiality defined in 37 C.F.R. 1.56(b), enacted March 16, 1992, but may be material under the old standard of materiality defined in 37 C.F.R. 1.56(a), last amended on November 28, 1988, or may merely be technical background which may be of interest to the Examiner. In accordance with 37 C.F.R. 1.97(g), the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed to mean that a search has been made.

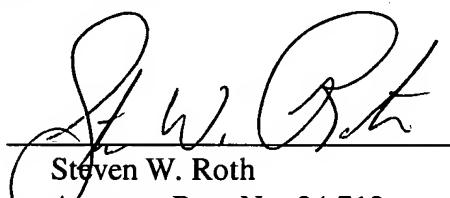
PATENT

The references listed herein were cited in a search report by a foreign patent office, a copy of which is attached hereto. If any references listed herein are in a language other than English, said foreign search report is submitted in satisfaction of the requirements of 37 C.F.R. 1.98(a)(3). Unless a translation accompanies this Statement, no written English-language translation of any non-English language document, or portion thereof, listed herein, is within the possession custody or control of, or is readily available to any individual designated in 37 C.F.R. 1.56(c).

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed under 37 C.F.R. 1.97(c) before a final action or notice of allowance. No filing fee is required because each item of information contained herein was cited for the first time in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this statement (certification provided below).

Respectfully submitted,

By

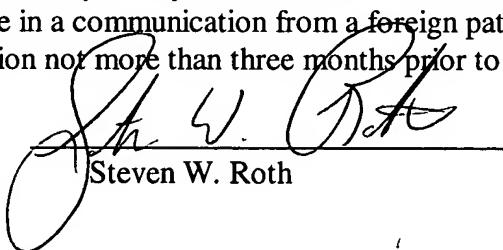


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CERTIFICATION

I hereby certify that each item of information contained herein was cited for the first time in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Statement.



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Steven W. Roth

January 23, 2004  
Date

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE  
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**

Sheet 1 of 1

Application Number.: 10/051,405  
Filing Date: January 18, 2002  
First Named Inventor: Michael J. Branson  
Art Unit: 2122  
Examiner Name: Unassigned  
Attorney Docket Number.: ROC919980274US2

## U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

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~~JAN 29 2004~~

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## FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Foreign Patent Document Country <sup>3</sup> - Number <sup>4</sup> - Kind Code <sup>5</sup> Code (if known)	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns or Lines Where Relevant Passages or Figs. Appear	T <sup>6</sup>
		Japan - PUPA 04-030218	02-03-1992	Hiroyuki et al.		
		Japan - PUPA 10-021061	01-23-1998	Kazuyuki		
		Japan - PUPA 02-249026	10-04-1990	Yoshikazu et al.		
		Japan - PUPA 63-098029	04-28-1988	Koji		

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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**EXAMINER:** Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

<sup>1</sup> Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). <sup>2</sup> See Kind Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at [www.uspto.gov](http://www.uspto.gov) or MPEP 901.04. <sup>3</sup> Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WPO, Standard ST 3).

<sup>4</sup> For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. <sup>5</sup> Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WPO Standard ST 16 if

patent document. <sup>5</sup> Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard S1.16 if possible. <sup>6</sup> Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language translation is attached.